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PIR

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



VITAL RECORDS COPY
NORTH VIETNAM RICE CROP
NORTHWEST EDGE OF
RED RIVER BASIN

25X1D



NPIC/R-23/67
FEBRUARY 1967

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
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This report is the second in a continuing study of the rice crop status in North Vietnam.
1/ Excellent quality low-level photography of [REDACTED] over an area on the upper northwest edge of the Red River Basin, North Vietnam, reveals agricultural technique and crop development in that area (Figure 1). The unusual clarity and very large scale of this photography provide detail not usually observed.

25X1D

On [REDACTED] most rice fields were nearing maturity and harvesting was just beginning (Figure 2). There had been quite a bit of lodging (flattening); some appeared to be directional, perhaps wind induced, and some lacked a directional pattern and might have been the result of plant weakness, either pathological or varietal or stage of growth (Figure 3). A few of the fields appeared to have a lower plant density. The straw in 2 fields had been stacked and burned.

In the few fields where the harvest had been started, the grain was cut, gathered into bundles, and then stacked in shocks which were left standing in the field until threshed, suggest-

ing that excess water is not a problem in this area. One type of threshing device observed in this area was a V-shaped trough (Figure 4). Stocks of grain could be held by the base and the heads beaten against the sides of the trough; the grain would fall to the bottom of the trough. In a few fields it appeared that only the heads of the grain had been removed and the straw left to be removed later (Figure 5).

A few fields had been prepared for planting and tracks in them indicated that rice may have been sown. These fields would be used as seedbeds; this planting would correspond with the growth stage of most of the rice fields. The seedlings would be ready for transplanting after the rice had been harvested and the fields prepared. Other items observed include at least 2 row-crop fields that have had white material, possibly lime, applied to them (Figure 6).

In general the rice crop appears to be good in this area with no extensive damage other than lodging; almost no tillable land was observed to be fallow.

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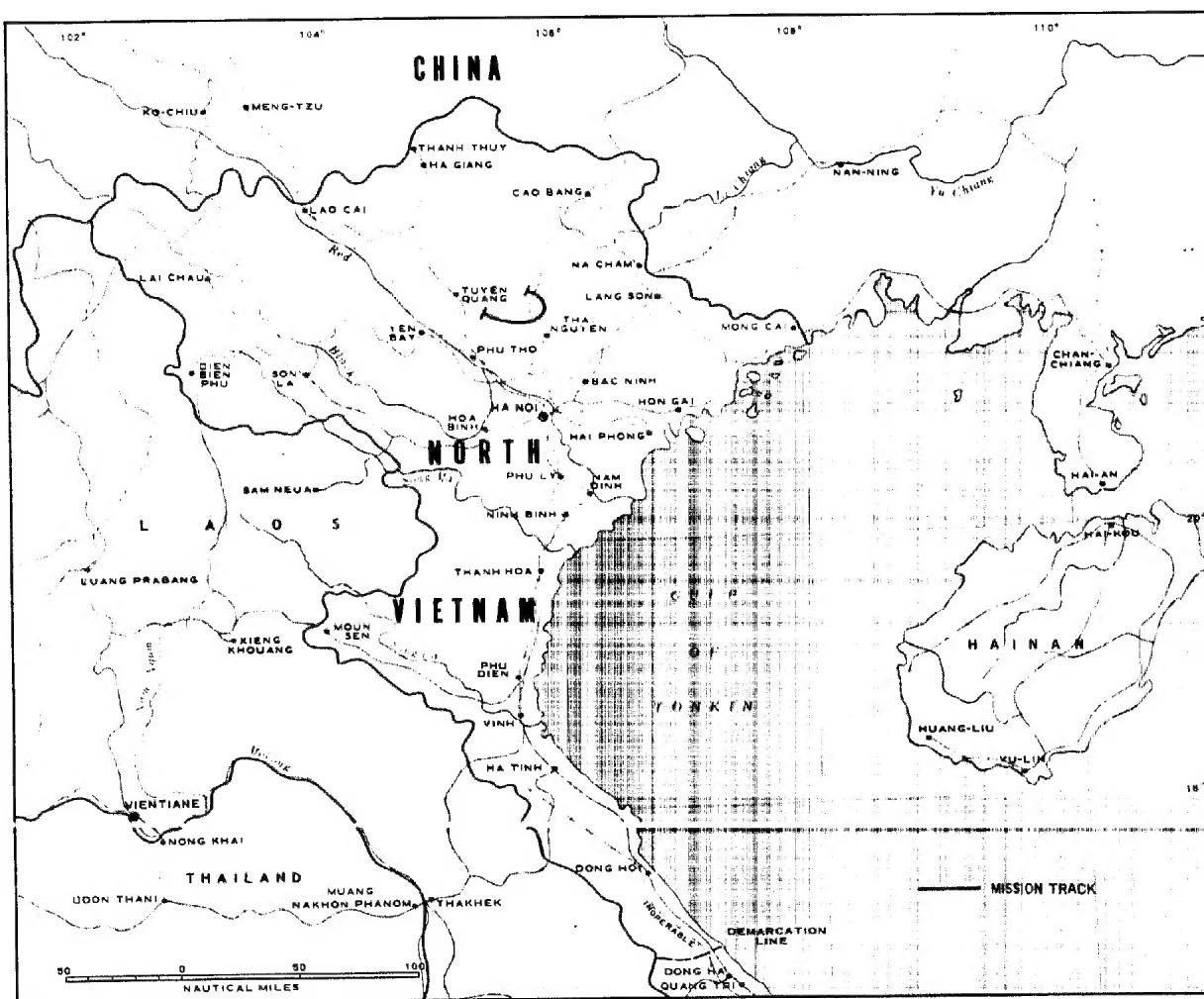


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE,

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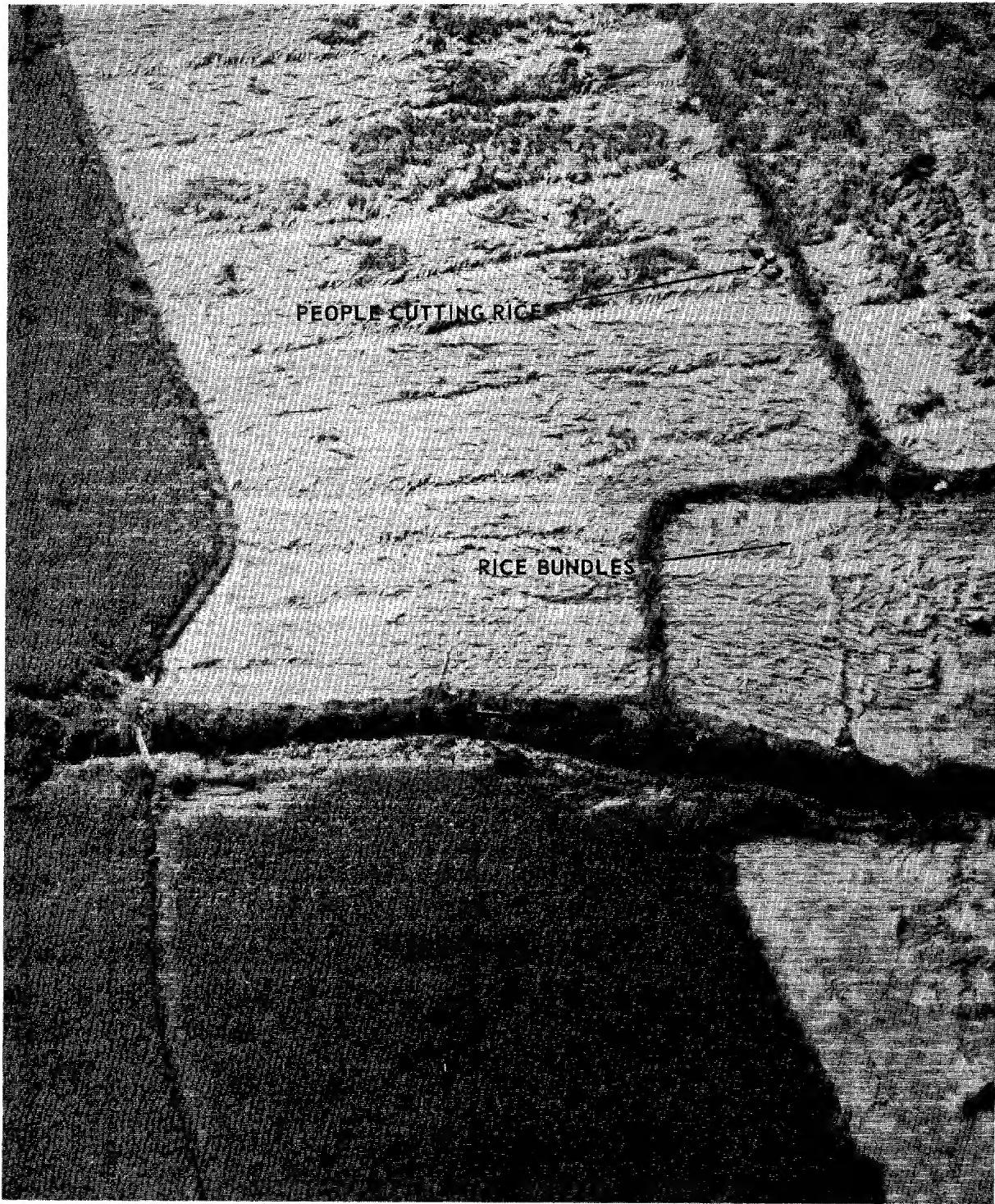


FIGURE 2. EARLY HARVEST OPERATIONS.

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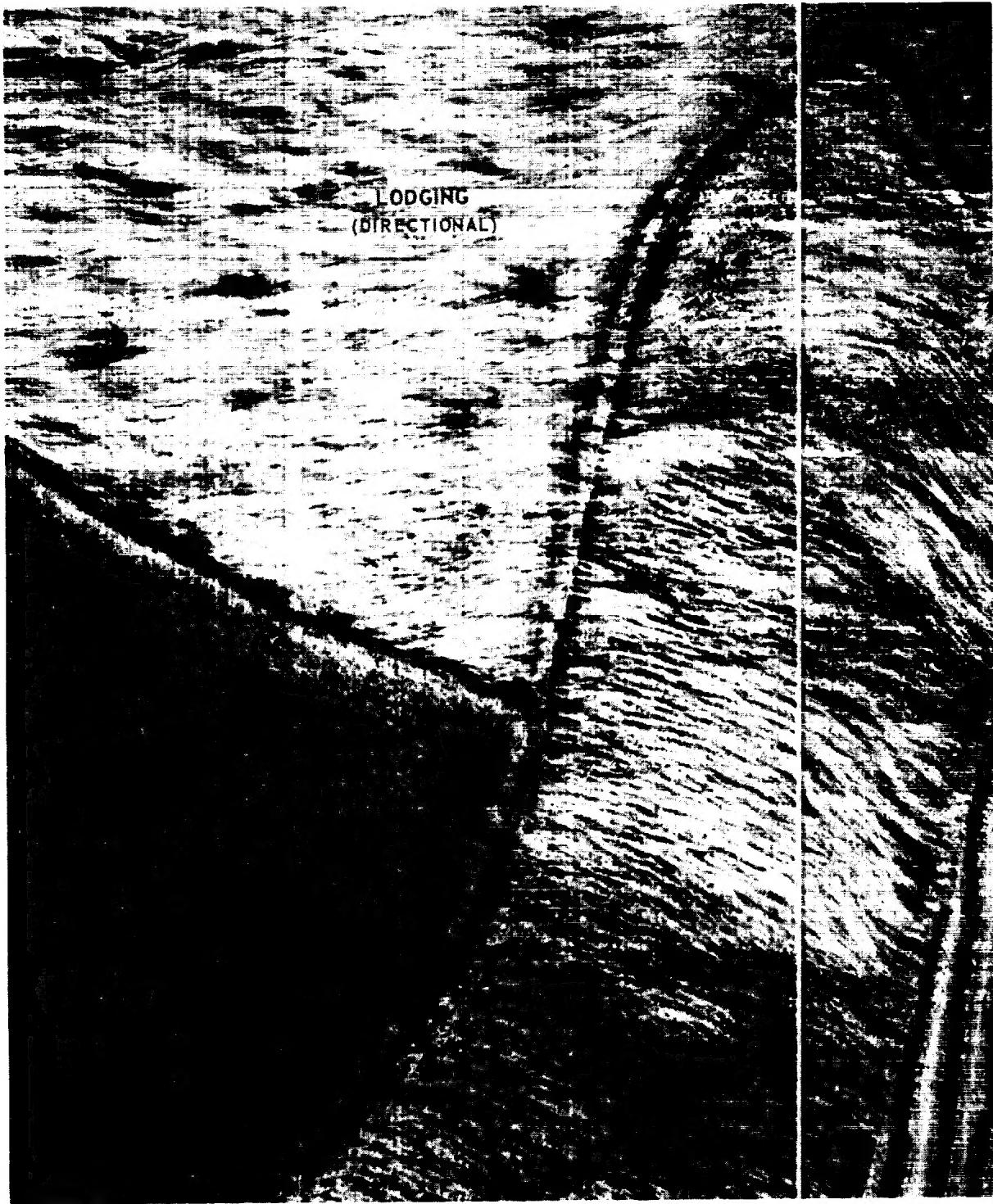
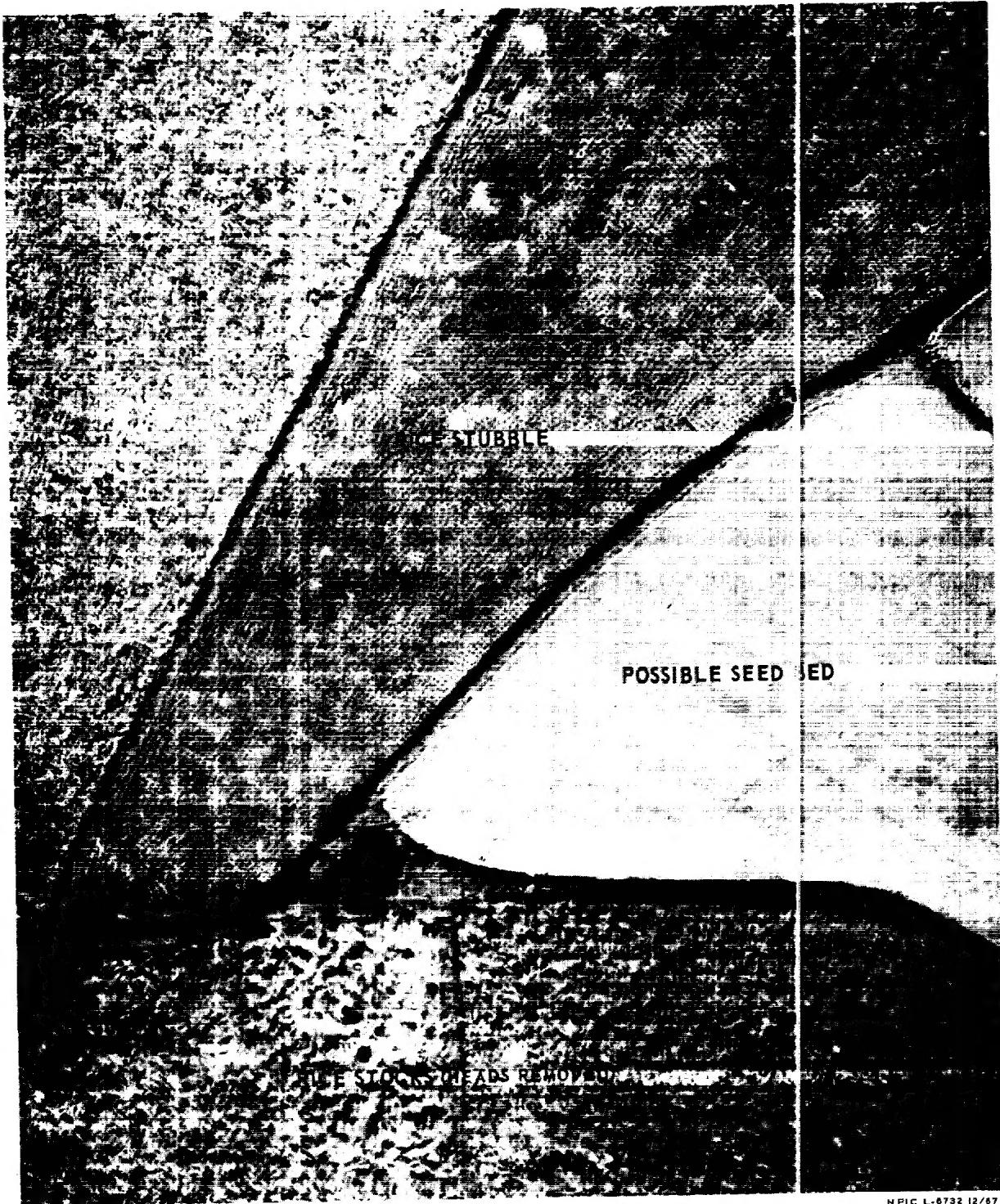


FIGURE 3. DIRECTIONAL LODGING OF RICE STALKS.



FIGURE 4. GRAIN SHOCKS AND THRESHING DEVICE.

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NPIC L-6732 (2/67)

FIGURE 5. RICE STOCKS WITH HEADS REMOVED AND POSSIBLE SEEDBED

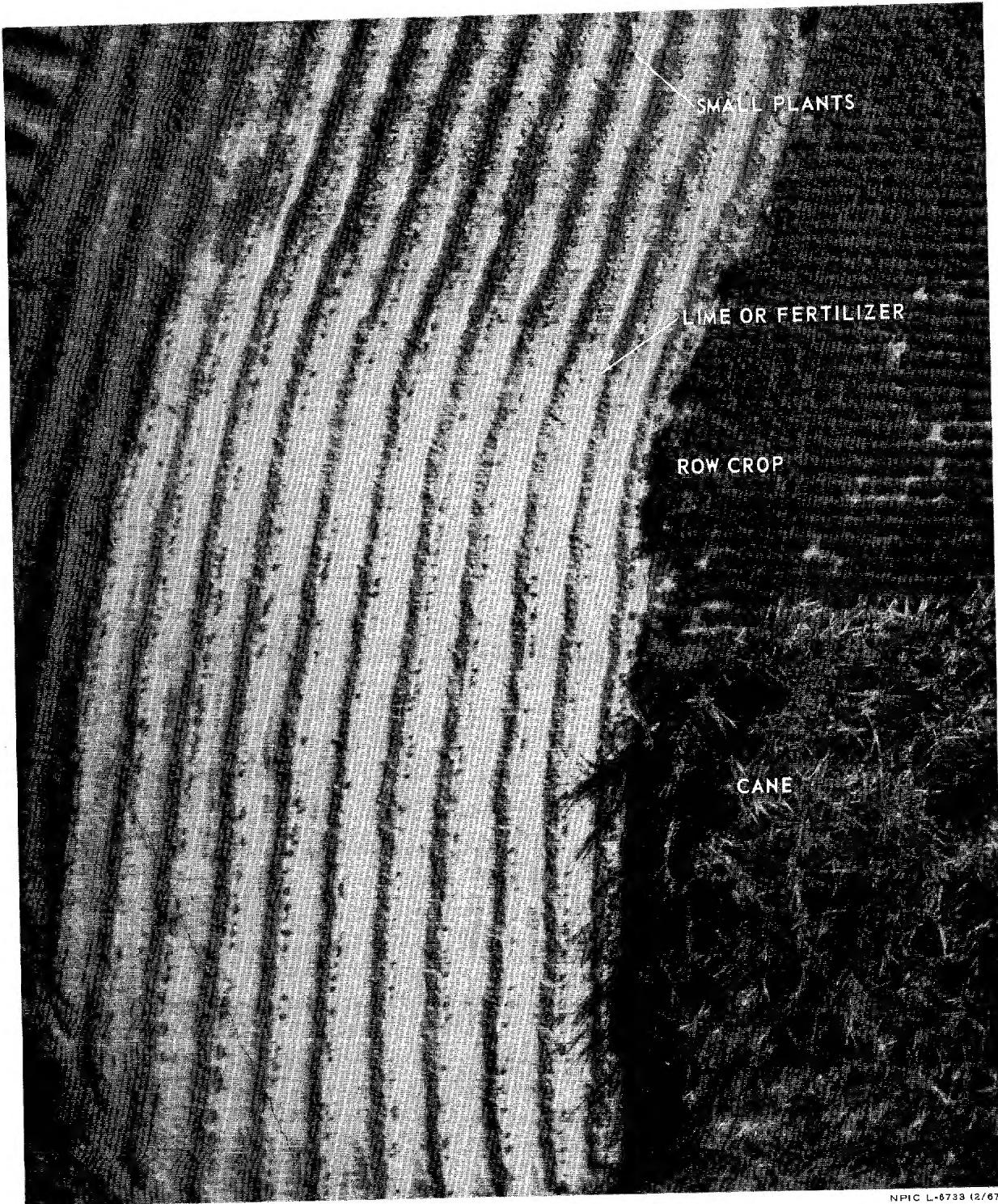
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FIGURE 6. POSSIBLE LIME APPLICATION.

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC series, scale 1:250,000

AMS series, scale 1:250,000

DOCUMENT

1. NPIC. R-408/66, *North Vietnam Tenth Month Rice Crop, Dec 66* (CONFIDENTIAL)

REQUIREMENT

25X2

NPIC PROJECT

11221/66 (partial answer)

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